

Message Text

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13

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AID-20 AGR-20 EB-11 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 IO-13 IGA-02 SSO-00 INRE-00 PM-07

NSC-10 SS-15 NSCE-00 RSR-01 L-03 /128 W

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O R 041000Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2415

INFO SECDEF

CINCPAC

COMUSMACTHAI

USAAG

DIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 8009

FOR STATE/AID

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, EAID, CB

SUBJ: RICE SITUATION

REF: PHNOM PENH 7916

1. THE FOLLOWING IS A PROJECTION OF THE RICE SITUATION INPHNOM
 PENH COVERING THE PERIOD FROM AUGUST 2 THRU AUGUST 13, 1973.

	8/2	8/3	8/4	8/5
BEGINNING STOCK	25,			
'5	25,183.8	25,990.9	26,970.9	
ROUTE 5	-	-	1,500	-
MEKONG RIVER	-	1,264.4	-	-
TOTAL AVAILABLE	25,865	26,448.2	27,490.9	26,970.9
LESS DISTRIBUTION	673.4	449.2	520	520
BALANCE	25,191.6	25,999	26,970.9	26,450.9

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LESS ADJUSTMENT 7.8 8.1

BALANCE 25,183.8 25,990.9

8/6 8/7 8/8 8/9

BEGINING STOCK	26,450.9	25,930.9	25,410.9	25,690.9
ROUTE 6	-	-	800	-
MEKONG RIVER	-	-	-	-
TOTAL AVAILABLE	26,450.9	25,930.9	26,210.9	25,690.9
LESS DISTRIBUTION	520	520	520	520
BALANCE	25,930.9	25,410.9	25,690.9	25,170.9

8/10 8/11 6 8/12 8/13

BEGINNING STOCK	25,170.9	24,650.9	24,930.9	24,410.9
ROUTE 5	-	800	-	-
MEKONG RIVER	-	-	-	-
TOTAL AVAILABLE	25,170.9	25,450.9	24,930.9	24,410.9
LESS DISTRIBUTION	520	520	520	520
BALANCE	24,650.9	24,930.9	24,410.9	23,890.9-45.9 DAYS

1) IN THE EVENT ROUTE 5 IS CLOSED: 22,290.9 AT 520 EQUAL 42.9 DAYS.

2. RICE PRICES. OPEN MARKET PRICES OF RICE IN QUANTITIES IN EXCESS OF 1 KG. APPEAR TO BE SLIGHTLY RISING SINCE REFTEL PARA 2. THE PRICES OF BROKENS 1/2 AND 3/4 ARE CONSIDERABLY LOWER SINCE JULY 12. BROKENS 1/2 COULD BE PURCHASED IN 100 KG. UNITS BUT BROKENS 3/4 WOULD BE AVAILABLE ONLY IN 15 KG. UNITS OR LESS.

8/4/73

RICE	1 KG.	15 KG.	100 KG.	GKR 100 KG.
1/15	83	1150	7200	5700
1/25	75	1080	6800	5500
1/50	65	1000	6500	5000
BROKENS 1/2	60	900	5800	3700
BROKENS 3/4	45	700	N.A.	2500

3. RICE DISTRIBUTION. THE AVERAGE RICE DISTRIBUTION RATE FOR PHNOM PENH AND AREAS SERVED FROM PHNOM PENH SINCE JUNE 20 IS 471.6 M/T PER DAY. THE TEN-DAY RUNNING AVERAGE IS 401.7 M/T PER DAY.

4. MEKONG CONVOY. THE MEKONG CONVOY ARRIVED LAST NIGHT (AUG.3) WITH APPROXIMATELY 1,264 M/T OF VN RICE. THE REMAINING RICE IN CONFIDENTIAL

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SAIGON IS SCHEDULED FOR AIRLIFTS TO SVAY RIENG. WE ARE NOW IN THE PROCESS OF TALLYING THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF VN RICE RECEIVED BY THE GKR.

5. RICE AIRLIFTS. RICE AIRLIFTED DURING THE PAST 48 HOURS AMOUNTS TO THE FOLLOWING NUMBER OF SORTIES AND METRIC TONS:

	KOMPONG THOM	SVAY RIENG	KOMPONG CHAM
8/2 GKR	5 - 14.1	6 - 20.5	5 - 29.2
AIR AMERICA	NA	7 - 40.5	NA
USAF	NA	NA	-0-
8/3 GKR	1 - 2.9	6 - 20.5	4 - 23.4

AIR AMERICA NA 14 - 81.0 NA

USAF NA NA 1 - 9.6

THE AIR AMERICA AIRLIFT TO SVAY RIENG IS AGAIN RUNNING AT FULL THROTTLE, AND THE GKR AIRLIFT TO KOMPONG THOM REMAINS ON A STEADY COURSE. AT KOMPONG CHAM, THE SINGLE USAF SORTIE ON AUGUST 3 WAS MEANT TO TEST THE RUNWAY. ALTHOUGH THREE MORE SORTIES BY HALF-LOADED C-130'S ARE SCHEDULED FOR TODAY, MEDTC/USAF HAVE EXPRESSED THE BELIEF THAT THE RUNWAY IN ITS PRESENT CONDITION WILL NOT STAND PROLONGED USE BY THIS TYPE OF AIRCRAFT. FOR ITS PART, THE GKR'S DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS HAS COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT IF C-130S CONTINUE TO BE USED DURING THE CURRENT RAINY SEASON, THERE IS NO WAY OF MAINTAINING THE RUNWAY IN SERVICEABLE CONDITION AND EVENTUALLY IT MAY HAVE TO BE CLOSED TO ALL TRAFFIC. THE USAF DOES NOT APPEAR TO HAVE OTHER TYPE OF AIRCRAFT AVAILABLE THAT WOULD BE MORE SUITABLE FOR THIS OPERATION.

KHMER DOMESTIC AIRLINES MAY BE ABLE TO TAKE OVER THE FULL TASK OF SUPPLYING RICE TO KOMPONG CHAM. HOPEFULLY, THIS MAY BE FEASIBLE WITHIN A FEW DAYS WITH THE IMPENDING ARRIVAL OF TWO DC-4 TYPE OF AIRCRAFT WHICH WERE BOUGHT RECENTLY IN AUSTRALIA BY SOUTH EAST ASIA AIR TRANSPORT AND HAVE BEEN LEASED TO AIR CAMBODGE. AT TODAY'S MEETING OF THE RICE COMMITTEE, THE KHMER REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE BUREAU OF CIVIL AVIATION OUTLINED A PLAN INVOLVING THESE ADDITIONAL AIRCRAFT,

WHEREBY AIR CAMBODGE WOULD FLY 10 SORTIES A DAY FOR A TOTAL OF 70 M/T. IF THIS PLAN CAN BE IMPLEMENTED NEXT WEEK, THE GOAL OF BUILDING UP A 30-DAY SECURITY STOCK BY SEPTEMBER 1 COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED
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BY THE KHMER THEMSELVES WITHIN THE NEXT 25 DAYS. IN THE EVENT AIR CAMBODGE IS UNABLE TO MAINTAIN THIS SCHEDULE, AIR AMERICA HAS INDICATED THAT C-46S ARE AVAILABLE TO TRANSPORT RICE FROM PHNOM PENH TO KOMPONG CHAM.

6. ROUTE 4. ROUTE 4 REMAINS UNDER GOVERNMENT CONTROL AND NON-RICE CONVOYS CONTINUE TO MOVE FREELY BETWEEN KOMPONG SOM AND PHNOM PENH. HOWEVER, SECURITY ALONG THE ROAD HAS NOT IMPROVED WITHIN THE LAST FEW DAYS AND THE ENEMY EAST OF KOMPONG SPEU STILL HAS CAPABILITY TO HARASS CONVOYS OR TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE THE ROAD.

7. ROUTE 5. ROUTE 5 ALSO REMAINS OPEN TO CONVOY TRAFFIC. THE NEXT RICE CONVOY FROM BATTAMBANG IS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE ON AUGUST 5 WITH RICE AND PADDY ESTIMATED AT THE EQUIVALENT OF 1,500 M/T OF RICE WHEN MILLED. THE CONVOY WAS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE AUGUST 4, BUT WAS DELAYED FOR ONE DAY BECAUSE OF LIMITED LOADING FACILITIES IN BATTAMBANG. FUTURE RICE CONVOYS WILL ALSO SPEND THREE DAYS IN BATTAMBANG INSEAD OF TWO AS BEFORE. BOTH PRIME MINISTER IN TAM AND UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE THACH SAM BAUR, HAVE BEEN FORCED BY PRESSING PROBLEMS IN PHNOM PENH TO CANCEL THEIR PLANNED TRIP TO BATTAMBANG. THE RICE COMMITTEE IS CONTINUING TO DISCUSS WAYS OF IMPROVING

EFFECTIVENESS OF RICE CONVOY SYSTEM. DURING YESTERDAY'S MEETING, THE RICE COMMITTEE ORDERED THE FOLLOWING DEPLOYMENT OF TRUCKS IN ROUTE 5 CONVOY WHICH LEFT PHNOM PENH ON AUGUST 4: 100 TRUCKS TO LOAD SOROPA STOCKS IN BATTAMBANG, 90 TRUCKS TO LOAD SATRAR STOCKS IN BATTAMBANG, AND 31 RAILROAD TRUCKS TO LOAD RICE STOCKS IN PURSAT. DURING TODAY'S MEETING, THE RICE COMMITTEE ALSO INSTRUCTED THE CME TO REPORT DAILY ON LOCATION AND AMOUNT OF ALL GOVERNMENT STOCKS IN BATTAMBANG. SINCE LON NOL REQUESTED THE COOPERATION OF THE BATTAMBANG GOVERNOR IN TRANSPORTING RICE STOCKS ON JULY 13, A TOTAL OF 6,668 M/T OF RICE HAS BEEN TRANSPORTED TO PHNOM PENH.

8. THAI RICE. THE GKR REPRESENTATIVE LEFT FOR BANGKOK ON FRIDAY. IN THE MEANWHILE THE RTG HAS APPARENTLY AGREED TO MAKE AN ADDITIONAL 5,000 M/T OF BROKENS AVAILABLE TO THE GKR. THE GKR EMBASSY IN BANGKOK ALSO REPORTS THAT THE RTG WILL CONSIDER A REQUEST FOR AN ADDITIONAL 12,500 M/T AT THE NEXT CABINET MEETING. DELAYS CONTINUE TO OCCUR WITH THE SHIPMENT OF 5,000 M/T ALREADY PURCHASED FROM THE THAIS. THE THAI SHIP
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COMPANY HAS BEEN ABLE TO LOCATE ONLY ONE VESSEL THUS FAR WHICH WILL NOT BEGIN LOADING IN BANGKOK UNTIL AFTER AUGUST 15.
ENDERS

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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